



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Washington DC 20420

March 14, 2019

Mr. Jasper Craven
MuckRock News
Dept. M 70074
411A Highland Ave.
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

Re: Freedom of Information Act Tracking Number 19-04801-F

Dear Mr. Craven

This letter responds to your January 27, 2019, 2019 request under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 5 U.S.C §552 to the Department of Veterans Affairs. Your request was referred to the Office of Finance on March 8, 2019. In your letter, you requested the following:

"All emails between Dr. Michael Fallon, Gabrielle Saunders, Stephanie McGovern, Jake Leinenkugel and all officials in VA leadership (<https://www.va.gov.opa.bios>) concerning service dogs for PTSD between January 1, 2017 and present day. Keywords include: "ptsd" "dog" "canine" "study" "results" "evidence" and "price."

The Office of Finance has no records responsive to your records based on the names of VA leadership in your internet citation. None of our senior officials are considered VA leadership according to your definition.

The Freedom of Information Statute, 5 U.S.C. §552 (A) (4) (a) (II), places all FOIA requesters in one of several categories for fee purposes. The categories of FOIA requesters are commercial use requesters; educational institutions; non-commercial scientific institutions; representatives of the news media; and all other requesters.

We have determined your organization falls within the category of other requestors and therefore waive any fees.

If you disagree with the determination, please be advised you may appeal to:

Office of General Counsel (024)
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20420

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If you should choose to file an appeal, your appeal must be postmarked no later than ninety (90) calendar dates from the date of this letter. Please include a copy of this letter with your written appeal and clearly state why you disagree with the determinations set forth in this response.

In addition to filing an appeal with the Office of General Counsel regarding this determination, you may also seek assistance regarding your FOIA request from VACO FOIA Public Liaison and or Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) as provided below:

Department of Veterans Affairs
VA FOIA Public Liaison (005R1)
810 Vermont Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20420
Email: vacofoiaservice@va.gov
Telephone: 877-750-3642
Fax: 202-632-7581

Office of Government Information Services (OGIS)
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Rd
College Park, MD 20740-6001
Email: ogis@nara.gov
Fax: 202-741-5769

This response closes FOIA 19-05801-F. If you have any questions, please contact me at 202-461-6183.

Sincerely,

Julie Schroeder

Julie Schroeder
Freedom of Information Act Officer
Office of Finance